

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 02363 140909Z

41

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SY-05

IO-11 EUR-12 EA-07 OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-02 COME-00

TRSE-00 /100 W

----- 092794

R 140830Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4042

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICAL USE NEW DELHI 2363

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US

SUBJ: COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER ALLEGES US INTERFERENCE  
IN GUJARAT

REF: MADRAS 0311 (NOTAL)

1. REFTEL REPORTS FOLLOWING SENTENCE FROM MADRAS  
"INDIAN EXPRESS" FEBRUARY 14 DESCRIBING COMMUNICATIONS  
MINISTER SHARMA'S SPEECH: "MR SHARMA ALLEGED THAT  
DURING THE RECENT ELECTIONS IN GUJARAT AN OFFICIAL OF  
THE US EMBASSY HAD TOURED THE STATE IN HIS CAR DIS-  
TRIBUTING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO OPPOSITION WORKERS."  
THE SAMACHAR VERSION OF PRESUMABLY THE SAME REMARK  
READS: "A PERSON FROM THE EMBASSY OF A CERTAIN GOVERN-  
MENT WAS SEEN DISTRIBUTING MONEY FROM A CAR IN  
GUJARAT DURING THE ELECTION".

2. THE FEBRUARY 14 EDITION OF THE "EXPRESS" IN NEW  
DELHI CARRIES A FRONT PAGE STORY WHICH REPORTS SHARMA  
WARNED THAT FOREIGN AGENTS WERE STILL ACTIVE AND  
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PAGE 02 NEW DE 02363 140909Z

LINKED THE TWO SNAKE PARCEL INCIDENTS (LIVE SNAKES

MAILED TO SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS)AND THE RECENT BOMBAY  
COMMUTER TRAIN FIRE TO THIS WARNING. ACCORDING TO  
THIS ACCOUNT, SHARMA SAID HE WAS NOT CONDEMNING ANY-  
BODY, BUT HE WANTED TO CAUTION THE PEOPLE THAT  
THESE INCIDENTS WERE SYMBOLIC. HE ADDED THAT POWERS  
NURSED ILL WILL TOWARD INDIA AND WERE INCITING WORKERS  
OF THE ANNNED RSS TO JOIN CONGRESS AND BREAK IT. THE  
AGENTS OF FOREIGN NATIONS, HE CONTINUED, WERE CREAT-  
ING AN ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH THE PEOPLE WOULD FEEL THE  
IMPACT OF THE EMERGENCY WAS FADING AWAY. THE MINISTER  
SAID THAT A MULTINATIONAL COMPANY WHICH HAD LOST A  
CONTRACT TO INDIA IN LATIN AMERICA HAD THREATENED  
THAT COUNTRY WITH DIRE CONSEQUENCES. INDIA, HE HAD  
ASSURED THAT COUNTRY, WOULD NOT ONLY TAKE OVER THE  
MANAGEMENT OF THE TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITY SHOULD  
THE MULTINATIONAL ORGANIZATION DECIDE TO WITHDRAW, BUT  
WOULD TRAIN THAT COUNTRY'S PERSONNEL SO THEY COULD  
RUN THEIR OWN SYSTEM.

3. COMMENT: SHARMA IS AN AVID LEFTIST WHO NEEDS  
LITTLE ENCOURAGEMENT TO PRODUCE THIS KIND OF A SPEECH.  
HE HAS SAID SIMILAR THINGS BEFORE, BUT HIS SPECIFIC  
CHARGE THAT AN EMBASSY OFFICER PASSED OUT MONEY IS  
A NEW AND BLATANT MOVE.  
SAXBE

NOTE: REFTEL NOT AVAILABLE.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INTERVENTION, PRESS COMMENTS, ALLEGATIONS, ESPIONAGE AGENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** saccheem  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976NEWDE02363  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760057-0502  
**From:** NEW DELHI  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760247/aaaabpiv.tel  
**Line Count:** 88  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 MADRAS 311  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** saccheem  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22 JUL 2004 by coburnhl>; APPROVED <05 OCT 2004 by saccheem>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER ALLEGES US INTERFERENCE IN GUJARAT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, IN, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006